



NEWS RELEASE

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WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRIOR SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR CHILD PORN

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for receiving child pornography over the Internet.

Jerry W. West, 52, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to 15 years in federal prison without parole, followed by supervised release for the rest of his life.

West has a 1984 criminal felony conviction for the molestation of a 7-year-old girl.

On Aug. 25, 2005, **West** pleaded guilty to receiving child pornography over the Internet from Dec. 31, 2004, to March 18, 2005, and to being in possession of child pornography on March 21, 2005.

Following a tip from a maintenance worker, Graves said, law enforcement officers visited **West's** apartment on March 21, 2005. Officers found a child-like plastic doll wearing only panties sitting on the sofa, as well as multiple photos taken by **West** of young girls in public settings, apparently unaware they were being photographed. Photos of children playing in their swimsuits in the Crown Center fountain were found on **West's** digital camera and on his computer. Images of child pornography – including a home-made calendar with child pornography featured in each month – was found on **West's** computer.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Cynthia Phillips. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow